

## For Immediate Release:

April 15, 2013

## Andover, Anoka, Ramsey Mayors to Host Prayer Breakfast for Youth First; Help Fulfill the 5 Promises!

Join the Mayors of Andover, Anoka and Ramsey in celebrating the lifesaving work of Youth First Community of Promise Friday, May 17, 2013.

The 19<sup>th</sup> annual Mayors' Prayer Breakfast is Friday, May 17, 2013, at 7:30 a.m. at the Fountains of Ramsey, located at 7533 Sunwood Drive NW, Ramsey, MN.

This year's guest speaker is Alison Feigh, Program Coordinator for the <u>Jacob Wetterling Resource Center/National Child Protection Training Center.</u> Alison is an expert on the topic of child and teen safety, and has appeared on CNN, Fox News, and local news outlets talking about her non-fear based personal safety messages. As a classmate of Jacob Wetterling, Alison learned early on how important it is to protect our children and youth from exploitation. She has authored two children's books about personal safety: "On Those Runaway Days" and "I Can Play It Safe."

For 19 years, citizens in our community have come together at the **Mayors' Prayer Breakfast** to award the Partner of Promise honor to a local leader, and to honor and support the work of **Youth First Community of Promise**.

**Tickets** are \$25 each or tables for eight can be purchased for \$190. Purchase your tickets by calling 763-421-8530 or email <a href="mailto:Kelly.Thorsten@co.anoka.mn.us">Kelly.Thorsten@co.anoka.mn.us</a>. You can also purchase tickets at the door.

## **About Youth First**

Youth First Community of Promise (<a href="www.Youth1st.net">www.Youth1st.net</a>) is an organization that is both ground-breaking and rooted in proven youth developmental practices. Born in 1991 as Youth First, it was created by visionaries who were able to reach across governmental boundaries and form a collaboration to reduce risky behaviors in youth in the communities of Andover, Anoka, and Ramsey. Kids who experience YouthFirst are more likely to succeed academically, socially, and civically, regardless of ethnic or economic boundaries.

Over the past 19 years, Youth First Community of Promise has been actively serving the youth and families of its community. In 2005, Youth First became a "Community of Promise" under the framework established by the national program model of America's Promise.





By becoming a "Site of Promise" Youth First has taken the pledge to actively engage not only community kids, but the community itself, in fulfilling **5 specific promises**:

- 1. Caring adults
- 2. Safe places
- 3. A healthy start and future
- 4. An effective education
- 5. Opportunities to give back